

O I P E

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box → [+]

APR 01 2004

PTO/SB08A/B (04-03)

Approved for use through 04/30/2003. OMB 0651-0031

Patent and Trademark Office; U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

COMPLETE IF KNOWN

| | |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| Application Number | 09/830,250 |
| Confirmation Number | 3328 |
| Filing Date | September 13, 2001 |
| First Named Inventor | John D. Curry |
| Group Art Unit | 3727 |
| Examiner Name | Jes F. Pascua |
| Attorney Docket Number | 7315 |

SHEET 1 of 4

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER INITIALS* | Cite No. ¹ | DOCUMENT NUMBER Number - Kind Code ² (if known) | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
|--------------------|-----------------------|---|--------------------------------|--|--|
| | 1 | 503,355 | Aug. 15, 1893 | Philips | |
| | 2 | 1,385,695 | Jul. 26, 1921 | MacCormack | |
| | 3 | 3,029,852 | Apr. 17, 1962 | Taylor | |
| | 4 | 3,906,753 | Sept. 23, 1975 | Siegfried | |
| | 5 | 4,102,825 | Jul. 25, 1978 | Murata, et al. | |
| | 6 | 4,195,378 | Apr. 1, 1980 | Parker | |
| | 7 | 4,267,077 | May 12, 1981 | Niimi, et al. | |
| | 8 | 4,336,024 | Jun. 22, 1982 | Rossard, et al. | |
| | 9 | 4,421,657 | Dec. 20, 1983 | Allen, et al. | |
| | 10 | 4,682,517 | May 5, 1987 | Wirth | |
| | 11 | 4,714,479 | Dec. 22, 1987 | Wilsberg | |
| | 12 | 4,746,455 | May 24, 1988 | Matsuda, et al. | |
| | 13 | 4,750,907 | Jun. 14, 1988 | Wilsberg | |
| | 14 | 4,781,041 | Nov. 1, 1988 | Fowler | |
| | 15 | 4,846,982 | Jul. 11, 1989 | Madore, et al. | |
| | 16 | 4,911,852 | Mar. 27, 1990 | Coffindaffer, et al. | |
| | 17 | 4,978,462 | Dec. 18, 1990 | Sheppard | |
| | 18 | 4,978,471 | Dec. 18, 1990 | Starch | |
| | 19 | 4,989,995 | Feb. 5, 1991 | Rubenstein, et al. | |
| | 20 | 5,026,489 | Jun. 25, 1991 | Snow, et al. | |
| | 21 | 5,057,240 | Oct. 15, 1991 | Madore, et al. | |
| | 22 | 5,091,105 | Feb. 25, 1992 | Madore, et al. | |
| | 23 | 5,110,506 | May 5, 1992 | Ciallella | |
| | 24 | 5,114,706 | May 1992 | DuVel | |
| | 25 | 5,190,120 | Apr. 6, 1993 | Holmes | |
| | 26 | 5,254,269 | Oct. 19, 1993 | Taylor, et al. | |
| | 27 | 5,288,431 | Feb. 22, 1994 | Huber, et al. | |
| | 28 | 5,354,491 | Oct. 1994 | Bjorkquist, et al. | |
| | 29 | 5,536,493 | Jul. 16, 1996 | Dubief | |
| | 30 | 5,614,484 | May 1997 | Panandiker | |
| | 31 | 5,648,327 | Jul. 15, 1997 | Smerznak, et al. | |
| | 32 | 5,661,988 | Sept. 2, 1997 | Oh, et al. | |
| | 33 | 5,674,832 | Oct. 7, 1997 | Keys | |
| | 34 | 5,681,355 | Oct. 28, 1997 | Davis, et al. | |
| | 35 | 5,681,808 | Oct. 28, 1997 | Kobayashi, et al. | |
| | 36 | 5,687,591 | Nov. 18, 1997 | Siklosi, et al. | |
| | 37 | 5,714,446 | Feb. 1998 | Bartz, et al. | |
| | 38 | 5,723,426 | Mar. 3, 1998 | Zhen, et al. | |
| | 39 | 5,747,433 | May 5, 1998 | Wahl, et al. | |
| | 40 | 5,753,079 | May 19, 1998 | Jenny, et al. | |
| | 41 | 5,759,208 | Jun. 2, 1998 | Zhen, et al. | |
| | 42 | 5,759,990 | Jun. 2, 1998 | Wahl, et al. | |
| | 43 | 5,762,647 | Jun. 1998 | Kaiser | |
| | 44 | 5,789,368 | Aug. 4, 1998 | You, et al. | |
| | 45 | 5,824,635 | Oct. 20, 1998 | Keys | |
| | 46 | 5,830,845 | Nov. 3, 1998 | Trinh, et al. | |
| | 47 | 5,861,370 | Jan. 19, 1999 | Trinh, et al. | |

APR 01 2004

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS (continued)

| | | | | | |
|--|----|-----------------|---------------|-----------------------------|--|
| | 63 | 5,877,145 | Mar. 2, 1999 | Wahl, et al. | |
| | 49 | 5,977,055 | Nov. 2, 1999 | Trinh, et al. | |
| | 50 | 6,040,286 | Mar. 21, 2000 | Huff | |
| | 51 | 6,053,952 | Apr. 2000 | Brown, et al. <i>Kaiser</i> | |
| | 52 | 6,061,849 | May 16, 2000 | Seals | |
| | 53 | 6,139,587 | Oct. 31, 2000 | Nair, et al. | |
| | 54 | 6,223,367 B1 | May 1, 2001 | French, et al. | |
| | 55 | 6,323,172 B1 | Nov. 27, 2001 | Trinh, et al. | |
| | 56 | 6,335,315 B1 | Jan. 1, 2002 | Trinh, et al. | |
| | 57 | 6,369,025 B1 | Apr. 9, 2002 | Trinh, et al. | |
| | 58 | 2003/0008799 A1 | Jan. 9, 2003 | Barnabas, et al. | |

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER INITIALS* | Cite No. ¹ | FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENT | | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | T ⁶ |
|--------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|---|----------------|
| | | Country Code ³ | Number ⁴ Code ³ | | | | |
| | 59 | DD | 286,179 A5 | Jan. 17, 1991 | Seibt, et al. | | X |
| | 60 | DE | 25 47 588 | Apr. 28, 1977 | Geysel | | X |
| | 61 | DE | 28 32 679 | Feb. 15, 1979 | Hans | | X |
| | 62 | DE | 34 11 084 | Jan. 2, 1986 | Zirk | | X |
| | 63 | EP | 0 342 834 B1 | Jan. 25, 1995 | Cray, et al. | | |
| | 64 | EP | 0 387 658 | Sept. 19, 1990 | Ochs | | |
| | 65 | EP | 0 394 689 | Oct. 31, 1990 | Sabia, et al. | | |
| | 66 | EP | 0 630 855 | Dec. 28, 1994 | Kao Corp. <i>Takeuchi</i> | | |
| | 67 | EP | 1 018 541 | Jul. 12, 2000 | Fender, et al. | | X |
| | 68 | GB | 2 054 635 | Feb. 18, 1981 | Kao Soap <i>Murata, et al.</i> | | |
| | 69 | GB | 2 078 670 | Jan. 13, 1982 | Poole | | |
| | 70 | GB | 2 245 281 A | Jan. 2, 1992 | Yahagi, et al. | | |
| | 71 | GB | 2 302 553 | Jan. 22, 1997 | Takese, et al. | | |
| | 72 | GB | 2 330 148 A | Apr. 14, 1999 | Joetzer, et al. | | |
| | 73 | JP | 02-180296 (Abstract) | Jul. 13, 1990 | Washitani | | |
| | 74 | JP | 04-036394 (Abstract) | Feb. 6, 1992 | Takashi, et al. | | |
| | 75 | JP | 04-144592 (Abstract) | May 19, 1992 | Kumagai, et al. | | |
| | 76 | JP | 05-293290 (Abstract) | Nov. 9, 1993 | Mori | | |
| | 77 | JP | 06-293499 (Abstract) | Jan. 13, 1993 | Watanabe | | |
| | 78 | JP | 07-080184 (Abstract) | Mar. 28, 1995 | Toyosawa | | |
| | 79 | JP | 07-124377 (Abstract) | May 16, 1995 | Toyosawa | | |
| | 80 | JP | 07-289778 | Nov. 7, 1995 | Miyahara | | X |
| | 81 | JP | 07-328279 (Abstract) | Dec. 19, 1995 | Mori | | |
| | 82 | JP | 08-029757 (Abstract) | Jun. 18, 1987 | Takami | | |
| | 83 | JP | 08-098986 (Abstract) | Apr. 16, 1996 | Toyosawa | | |
| | 84 | JP | 08-196778 | Aug. 6, 1996 | Yamamoto | | X |
| | 85 | JP | 08-218855 | Mar. 3, 1999 | Kao Corp. | | X |
| | 86 | JP | 09-056973 (Abstract) | Mar. 4, 1997 | Fujie | | |
| | 87 | JP | 09-067594 (Abstract) | Mar. 11, 1997 | Kazunari, et al. | | |
| | 88 | JP | 09-075580 (Abstract) | Mar. 25, 1997 | Toyosawa | | |
| | 89 | JP | 09-105077 | Apr. 22, 1997 | Yoshida, et al. | | X |
| | 90 | JP | 09-131489 (Abstract) | May 20, 1997 | Toyosawa | | |
| | 91 | JP | 09-140988 (Abstract) | Jun. 3, 1997 | Ogawa | | |
| | 92 | JP | 09-201487 (Abstract) | Aug. 5, 1997 | Fukazawa | | |
| | 93 | JP | 09-215892 (Abstract) | Aug. 19, 1997 | Yoshioka | | |
| | 94 | JP | 09-220394 (Abstract) | Aug. 26, 1997 | Fukazawa | | |
| | 95 | JP | 09-234294 (Abstract) | Sept. 9, 1997 | Fukazawa | | |
| | 96 | JP | 09-242905 (Abstract) | Sept. 27, 1986 | Satake | | |
| | 97 | JP | 09-271597 (Abstract) | Oct. 21, 1997 | Yoshioka | | |
| | 98 | JP | 10-005487 (Abstract) | Jan. 13, 1998 | Hirata | | |
| | 99 | JP | 10-015282 (Abstract) | Jan. 20, 1998 | Morishita | | |
| | 100 | JP | 10-015283 | Jan. 20, 1998 | Nehashi, et al. | | X |
| | 101 | JP | 10-015284 | Jan. 20, 1998 | Hasegawa | | X |
| | 102 | JP | 10-015285 (Abstract) | Jan. 20, 1998 | Fukazawa | | |
| | 103 | JP | 10-028790 | Feb. 3, 1998 | Teranishi, et al. | | X |
| | 104 | JP | 10-057667 (Abstract) | Mar. 3, 1998 | Okada | | |
| | 105 | JP | 10-060480 (Abstract) | Mar. 3, 1998 | Isao, et al. | | |

APR 18 2004

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS (continued)

| | | | | |
|-----|-------------------------|----------------|-------------------|---|
| 106 | JP 10-060483 (Abstract) | Mar. 3, 1998 | Isoo, et al. | |
| 107 | JP 10-071295 | Mar. 17, 1998 | Saigusa, et al. | X |
| 108 | JP 10-118386 | May 12, 1998 | Saigusa, et al. | X |
| 109 | JP 10-137486 | May 26, 1998 | Nehashi, et al. | X |
| 110 | JP 10-151292 | Jun. 9, 1998 | Teranishi, et al. | X |
| 111 | JP 10-158693 (Abstract) | Jun. 16, 1998 | Kazuhiro, et al. | |
| 112 | JP 10-158962 (Abstract) | Jun. 16, 1998 | Matsumoto | |
| 113 | JP 10-179499 (Abstract) | Jul. 7, 1998 | Saito | |
| 114 | JP 10-201992 (Abstract) | Aug. 4, 1998 | Abiru, et al. | |
| 115 | JP 10-235074 | Sept. 8, 1998 | Teranishi, et al. | X |
| 116 | JP 10-249090 (Abstract) | Sept. 22, 1998 | Kobayashi | |
| 117 | JP 10-251962 (Abstract) | Sept. 22, 1998 | Tsumadori, et al. | |
| 118 | JP 10-305188 | Nov. 17, 1998 | Teranishi, et al. | X |
| 119 | JP 11-004992 | Jan. 12, 1999 | Hasegawa, et al. | X |
| 120 | JP 11-057278 | Mar. 2, 1999 | Saigusa, et al. | X |
| 121 | JP 11-076677 (Abstract) | Mar. 23, 1999 | Nishizawa | |
| 122 | JP 11-123297 (Abstract) | May 11, 1999 | Katsumata | |
| 123 | JP 11-156083 (Abstract) | Jun. 15, 1999 | Shimada | |
| 124 | JP 11-169587 (Abstract) | Jun. 29, 1999 | Hazutani | |
| 125 | JP 11-172592 (Abstract) | Jun. 29, 1999 | Kamo | |
| 126 | JP 11-197387 (Abstract) | Jul. 27, 1999 | Honda, et al. | |
| 127 | JP 11-207079 (Abstract) | Aug. 3, 1999 | Onuki, et al. | |
| 128 | JP 11-253689 (Abstract) | Sept. 21, 1999 | Sato, et al. | |
| 129 | JP 11-300079 (Abstract) | Nov. 2, 1999 | Morikawa | |
| 130 | JP 11-300080 (Abstract) | Nov. 2, 1999 | Kenjo, et al. | |
| 131 | JP 11-319369 (Abstract) | Nov. 24, 1999 | So | |
| 132 | JP 11-333195 (Abstract) | Dec. 7, 1999 | Kawada | |
| 133 | JP 11-347284 (Abstract) | Dec. 21, 1999 | Teranishi, et al. | |
| 134 | JP 00-14965 | Jan. 18, 2000 | Hosokawa | X |
| 135 | JP 00-024376 (Abstract) | Jan. 25, 2000 | Shudo | |
| 136 | JP 00-070587 (Abstract) | Mar. 7, 2000 | Yamada, et al. | |
| 137 | JP 00-107486 (Abstract) | Apr. 18, 2000 | Saegusa | |
| 138 | JP 00-116981 (Abstract) | Apr. 25, 2000 | Kojima | |
| 139 | JP 00-116983 (Abstract) | Apr. 25, 2000 | Mototsu | |
| 140 | WO 97/00992 | Jan. 9, 1997 | Trinh, et al. | |
| 141 | WO 97/03169 | Jan. 30, 1997 | Trinh | |
| 142 | WO 97/07278 | Feb. 27, 1997 | Davis, et al. | |
| 143 | WO 97/12019 | Apr. 3, 1997 | Zhen, et al. | |
| 144 | WO 97/12022 | Apr. 3, 1997 | Zhen | |
| 145 | WO 97/12027 | Apr. 3, 1997 | Zhen | |
| 146 | WO 97/27354 | Jul. 31, 1997 | You, et al. | |
| 147 | WO 97/41291 | Nov. 6, 1997 | Teranishi, et al. | X |
| 148 | WO 98/04770 | Feb. 5, 1998 | Teranishi, et al. | X |
| 149 | WO 99/12988 | Mar. 18, 1999 | Sawai, et al. | |
| 150 | WO 99/18177 | Apr. 15, 1999 | Joetzjer, et al. | |
| 151 | WO 00/24857 | May 4, 2000 | Murphy, et al. | |
| 152 | WO 00/24860 | May 4, 2000 | Wernicke, et al. | |
| 153 | WO 00/24958 | May 4, 2000 | Curry, et al. | |

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER INITIALS* | Cite No. ¹ | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published | T ⁶ |
|--------------------|-----------------------|--|----------------|
| | 154 | Jumbo Size Laundry Net – Advertisement (Japanese Translation Attached). <i>No author. No date.</i> | X |
| | | | |
| EXAMINER | | DATE CONSIDERED | 04/19/04 |

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kind Codes of U.S. Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, D.C. 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.